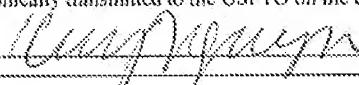


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the USPTO on the date shown below.

Date: September 27, 2006

Signature:



(Quyen Nguyen)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/612,109
Confirmation No.: 3376
Filing Date: July 1, 2003
Inventor(s): Richard C. EWERS
Title: DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR GASTRIC REDUCTION
Examiner: M. Hand
Group Art Unit: 3761

RESPONSE TO NOTICE REQUIRING EXCESS CLAIMS FEES

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

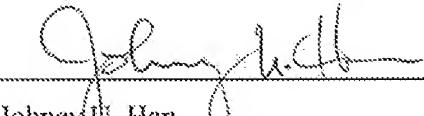
Sir:

This is in response to the Notice Requiring Excess Claims Fees dated September 19, 2006 for which a response is due on October 19, 2006. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Applicant respectfully submit the appropriate payment of \$200 in excess claims fees herewith for the claims filed in the response of September 14, 2006.

In the event the appropriate fee and/or petition is not filed herewith and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with this filing to Deposit Account No. 50-3973 referencing Attorney Docket No. USGINZ02110. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Registration No. 45,565

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